

**SALINA HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION**  
**--MEETING MINUTES--**  
**Meeting Room 105**  
**February 14, 2006**

**Commissioners Present:**

Brenda Faram      Richard Frye  
Sid Gray          Sharon Kibbe  
Gina McDonald    Jan Mendell  
Maribel Panuco

**Commissioners Absent**

Arthur Jordan      Allen Smith

**Staff Present**

Kaye Crawford, Director  
Dina Giron, Human Relations Specialist

**Guest**

Nichole Roths

**CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

Vice Chairman Richard Frye called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm, and requested Director Crawford take roll call.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Vice Chairman Frye called for approval of the agenda as printed. Director Crawford requested the additions of the National Hispanic Heritage and Cinco de Mayo activities' reports from Maribel Panuco and Dina Giron under New Business. Commissioner Jan Mendell called for approval of the agenda as amended and motion was seconded by Commissioner Sid Gray. The motion carried by vote of the full commission.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Vice Chairman Frye called for approval of the minutes for the January Meeting. Commissioner Sharon Kibbe made motion to approve the minutes as written, and Commissioner Brenda Faram seconded the motion. The motion was carried by the full commission.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**City of Salina Organizational Change**

Jason Gage, City Manager, recently made an important change in the way the Salina Human Relations Department is set in the organizational hierarchy. Previously Director Crawford reported to and was supervised by Deb Demel, Assistant City Manager. With the change, Kaye will now report directly to the City Manager, which she feels will result in faster answers and a closer liaison with the City Manager's Office.

**Women's History Month Luncheon**

The upstairs Banquet Room at the Salina Bicentennial Center has been reserved for March 17<sup>th</sup>, and Ms Donna Cavitte tapped to be our guest speaker for the 2006 Women's History Month Luncheon. The subject of her presentation will be "Women in Government". Ms Cavitte is the Director of the Missouri Human Rights Commission, and an interesting and accomplished individual with a diverse background.

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**Fair Housing Seminar**

The Fair Housing Seminar for Fair Housing Month has been scheduled for April 28, 2006, at the Salina Bicentennial Center. At this time Director Crawford does not have all the details set, but did say that information and presentations on lead-based paint, and issues related to disabled tenants could be two of the landlord training programs offered.

**Amendment to Kansas Residential Landlord and Tenant Act**

Director Crawford reported that she had received information from Ruth Glover, Assistant Director of the Kansas Human Rights Commission, in regard of HB 2839 which amends the Residential Landlord and Tenant Act. A hearing on the bill had been set for today (2/14/2006) before the House Commerce and Labor Committee. At this time Nichole Roths confirmed that the bill would affect the procedures of abandonment and the landlord would have the right to remove a tenant's possessions and set them at the curb when a law enforcement officer restores possession of the landlord's property to the landlord after an eviction proceeding. . The landlord would also have the right to retain and store a tenant's possessions after a tenant abandons a unit.

Director Crawford also informed the commission of a new homeowner association bill which bans any language restricting residency of properties covered by the bylaws of that homeowners association, based on race, religion, color, sex, disability, familial status, national origin and ancestry. Restrictive covenants are known to still exist in places such as Wichita, Emporia, and Topeka.

**Affirmative Action Committee**

Meeting dates have been set by our new City Manager for April, July and October. A report by Deb Demel will be made at our next commission meeting, in March.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**SHRC Annual Report to the City Commission**

Director Crawford requested approval of the Human Relations Commission Report to the City Commission. A motion to approve the report was requested by Vice Chairman Frye. Commissioner Mendell made motion to approve the report as written, and Commissioner Gray seconded the motion. The motion was carried by the full commission.

**National Hispanic Heritage Month & Cinco de Mayo Celebration**

Commissioner Maribel Panuco and HRS Dina Giron reported that the Human Relations Department in collaboration with Catholic Charities will host a National Hispanic Heritage Month and Cinco de Mayo celebrations. They gave an open invitation to several other community organizations to participate. The first meeting of the planning committee for these events was held last Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, with 9 people

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attending. More information will be provided to the commission as plans mature. On a related note, the Director confirmed that City Manager Gage has expressed his support for providing more activities for the Hispanic community.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Committee Reports**

- 1. Alternate Festival Activities.** No report.
- 2. Expanded Jurisdiction** - Chairwoman McDonald expressed to the commission that this may be a perfect time to follow up with a meeting with the County Commission. She will contact Commissioners Frye and Smith to set up a possible meeting time.
- 3. Civil Rights Training for Community** - No report was given by Commissioner Kibbe. Chairwoman McDonald did advise that she met with Director Crawford and Sandra Beverly regarding the Kansas Highway Patrol training focusing on Racial Profiling. This training may be in June, 2006.
- 4. Annual Community Award for Civil Rights** - Commissioner Gray did not have anything to report.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Commission went into Executive Session at 6:10 p.m. to discuss the Docket.

**Commission commenced regular session at 6:30.**

**MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

As there was no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

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Gina McDonald, Chairwoman

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Kaye J. Crawford, Secretary